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COUNTRY Argentina/Germany

DATE DISTR. 14 December 1948

SUBJECT: German Immigrants in Argentina

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**NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)**

PLACE  
ACQUIRED

DATE OF INFO Prior to 17 November 1948  
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**SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.**

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1. Many Germans, the majority of whom were Nazis, have come to Argentina after circumventing Allied control posts in Europe. Those who were able to proceed to Italy were allowed to travel from there to Spain without documents. Upon arriving in Spain, they were provided with passports and their sea passage to Argentina was arranged for them. A crew member of the Spanish ship CABO DE BUENA ESPERANZA revealed that his ship had carried 200 Germans from Genoa to Barcelona on its last voyage.
2. These German immigrants, the majority of whom are technicians and industrial specialists, are protected by the Argentine government and many of them are employed in military factories, principally in the Cordoba area. A few of them migrate from Argentina to Paraguay, Bolivia, Peru, and Venezuela. Most of these immigrants live in German pensions in Belgrano. On 7 November 1948, 28 Germans who came from Spain registered at the German-owned Barancas Hotel located at Calle 3 de Febrero 2121.

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3. Otto Valentín Knapke, a Nazi who succeeded in escaping to Spain after the war and subsequently came to Buenos Aires from Portugal, is active in obtaining employment for German immigrants and is believed to have facilities for bringing Germans from Europe. Knapke, now an enthusiastic Peronista, lives at Calle Jaramillo 4121 in Buenos Aires, and also maintains a residence in Capitan Meza, Alto Parana, Paraguay. He is a prominent figure in the Argentine organization Ayuda Social a las Madres y Niños Alemanes (Social Aid to German Mothers and Children), which was founded by Fritz Mandl and Ludwig Freude. Although this organization collects money for the purchase of food and clothing, its packages are shipped to Germany through government facilities and appear to be donations from President and Mrs. Peron.

was shown and is hereby declared to  
 constitute a record in accordance with the  
 letter of 20 September 1973 from the  
 Director of Central Intelligence to the  
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Next Review Date: 2008

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NO CHANGE in Class.

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## CLASSIFICATION

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